



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/703,941

11/01/2000

Douglas A. Graham

3688-030

4046

26158

7590

10/31/2005

WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE, PLLC

P.O. BOX 7037

ATLANTA, GA 30357-0037

EXAMINER

WOO, ISAAC M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2166

DATE MAILED: 10/31/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/703,941

Applicant(s)

GRAHAM, DOUGLAS A.

Examiner

Isaac M. Woo

Art Unit

2162

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-31, 33, 35-52, 54-58 and 60-69 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13, 15-31, 33, 35-52, 54-58 and 60-69 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on July 28, 2005 has been entered.

2. Claims 14, 32, 34, 53 and 59 are canceled. The pending claims are 1-13, 15-31, 33, 35-52, 54-58 and 60-69.

### ***Claim Objections***

3. Claims 35 and 36 are objected to because of the following informalities: claim 32 is canceled. However claim 35-36 are still dependent on canceled claim 32. Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-13, 15-31, 33, 35-52, 54-58 and 60-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Donohue (U.S. Patent No. 6,202,207).

With respect to claim 1, Donohue discloses, searching for at least one remote database accessible via a network of computer systems, see (col. 6, lines 11-34, col. 10, lines 16-58, 220, 330, search request for URL list, fig. 3, searching through internet (network) for any resource location or web site (remote database, URL), col. 6, lines 11-65, col. 9, lines 45-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58); determining whether each remote database (210, URL list, fig. 3) found during the searching is comprised of the desired type of data, wherein the desired type of data is time series data (60, fig. 2, fig. 3, col. 10, lines 16-58, time series table is searched and determined to download); and storing location information for each remote database found during the searching if the remote database is comprised of the desired type of data, see (col. 10, lines 39-58, URL list is downloaded, 230, downloads file, fig. 3).

With respect to claim 2, Donohue discloses, desired type of data for use in a predetermined data analysis, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65); retrieving data from the selected remote database via the network of computer systems; using the data

retrieved from the selected remote database in the predetermined data analysis, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65).

With respect to claim 3, Donohue discloses, storing an indication that the remote database is comprised of data that has been used in the predetermined data analysis, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65, fig. 3, col. 10, lines 16-58).

With respect to claim 4, Donohue discloses, determining at a predetermined time interval whether the database has changed; and if the database has changed, updating the predetermined data analysis using the changed data, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65).

With respect to claim 5, Donohue discloses, determined on the basis of the frequency of the time series data, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65, fig. 3, col. 10, lines 16-58).

With respect to claim 6, Donohue discloses, predetermined data analysis that has been updated; providing an indication to a predetermined user that the predetermined data analysis has been updated, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65).

With respect to claim 7, Donohue discloses, providing the updated predetermined data analysis to a predetermined user, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65).

With respect to claims 8-10, Donohue discloses, predetermined data analysis is a forecast, economic, demographic or meteorological forecast specified by a user, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65, col. 6, lines 11-49).

With respect to claim 11, Donohue discloses, retrieving data from the selected local database via the network of computer systems; and using the data retrieved from the selected local database in the predetermined data analysis, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65, col. 6, lines 11-49).

With respect to claim 12, Donohue discloses, if the number times the remote database is used in the predetermined data analysis exceeds a predefined value, storing locally the data used in the predetermined analysis, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65, col. 6, lines 11-49).

With respect to claim 13, Donohue discloses, receiving a specification of the desired type of data before the searching and the storing, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65, col. 6, lines 11-49).

With respect to claim 15, Donohue discloses, receiving a specification of the desired type of data before the searching and the storing, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65, col. 6, lines 11-49, fig. 3, col. 10, lines 16-58).

With respect to claim 16, Donohue discloses, determining information about at least one characteristic of the remote database; and storing the information about the at least one characteristic of the remote database in association with the location information for the remote database, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65, col. 6, lines 11-49).

With respect to claim 17, Donohue discloses, remote database is selected from the group consisting of data frequency, data units, data scale, data source, data update date, and number of data points, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65, col. 6, lines 11-49).

With respect to claim 18, Donohue discloses, remote database is selected from the group consisting of data frequency, data units, data scale, data source, data update date, and number of data points, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 45-65, col. 6, lines 11-49, fig. 3, col. 10, lines 16-58).

With respect to claim 19, Donohue discloses, determined from at least one XML data definition tag that is associated with the remote database, see (col. 5, lines 29-67 to col. 6, lines 1-65).

With respect to claim 20, Donohue discloses, searching the stored remote database characteristic information; and identifying one or more remote databases having the desired remote database characteristic, see (col. 5, lines 29-67 to col. 6, lines 1-65).

With respect to claim 21, Donohue discloses, remote databases having the desired remote database characteristic, see (col. 5, lines 29-67 to col. 6, lines 1-65).

With respect to claim 22, Donohue discloses, reading network address information for at least one computer system within the network of computer systems; accessing the at least one computer system based on the network address information; retrieving information from the at least one computer system sufficient to determine whether the at least one computer system provides access to at least one remote database, see (col. 5, lines 29-67 to col. 6, lines 1-65, fig. 2, fig. 3, col. 10, lines 16-58).

With respect to claim 23, Donohue discloses, access the at least one computer system and to process the information retrieved from the at least one computer system, see (col. 5, lines 29-67 to col. 6, lines 1-65, fig. 2, fig. 3, col. 10, lines 16-58).

With respect to claim 24, Donohue discloses, protocol is TCP/IP communications protocol, see (col. 4, lines 5-65).

With respect to claim 25, Donahue discloses, predefined database formatting information to access the at least one computer system and to process the information retrieved from the at least one computer system, see (col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58).



With respect to claim 26, Donahue discloses, predefined database formatting information is comprised of a plurality of predefined database format definitions, see (col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58).

With respect to claim 27, Donahue discloses, reading uniform resource locator (URL) information corresponding to at least one computer system accessible via the Internet; accessing the at least one computer system via the Internet; determining whether the at least one computer system provides access to at least one remote database, and storing location information for the at least one computer system if the at least one computer system provides access to the at least one remote database, see (col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58).

With respect to claim 28, Donahue discloses, retrieving HTML formatted information from each computer system found that provides access to at least one remote database, and parsing the retrieved HTML formatted information to determine whether the at least one remote database is comprised of data of the desired type, see (col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58).

With respect to claim 29, Donahue discloses, HTML formatted information is comprised of a meta tag, see (col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58).

With respect to claim 30, Donahue discloses, retrieving XML formatted information from each computer system that provides access to at least one remote database, and parsing the retrieved XML formatted information to determine whether the at least one remote database is comprised of data of the desired type, see (col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58).

With respect to claim 31, Donahue discloses, storing an indication of whether the remote database is comprised of time series data in association with the location information for the remote database, see (col. 10, lines 39-58, URL list is downloaded, 230, downloads file, fig. 3).

With respect to claim 33, Donahue discloses, storing characteristic information for each time series of data in association with the location information for the remote database in which the time series of data is contained, see (col. 10, lines 39-58, URL list is downloaded, 230, downloads file, fig. 3).

With respect to claim 35, Donahue discloses, number of data points in the at least one time series of data, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 36, Donahue discloses, starting time of the time series of data; ending time of the time series of data; and time interval between each of the data points contained in the time series of data, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 37, Donahue discloses, data series format information is comprised of information about the format of the time series of data contained in the at least one database, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 38, Donahue discloses, time series of data is redundant of a data series for which information has already been stored, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 39, Donahue discloses, information has already been stored, not storing information about the time series of data, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 40, Donahue discloses, if the time series of data is not redundant of the data series for which information has already been stored, storing information about the time series of data, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 41, Donahue discloses, determining whether a correlation exists between at least some of the data of the desired type contained in the at least

Art Unit: 2166

one remote database and at least some of the data of the desired type contained in a predefined data set; and if the correlation exists, storing an indication of the correlation in association with the stored location information for the at least one remote database, see (fig. 3, col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58).

With respect to claims 42-46, Donahue discloses, predefined data set is comprised of microeconomic data, macroeconomic data and meteorological, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 47, Donahue discloses, determining a volatility measurement for at least some of the data of the desired type contained in the at least one remote database; and storing the volatility measurement in association with the stored location information for the at least one remote database, see (fig. 3, col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58).

With respect to claim 48, Donahue discloses, determining a seasonality measurement for at least some of the data of the desired data type contained in the at least one remote database, and storing the seasonality measurement in association with the stored location information for the at least one remote database, see (fig. 3, col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58).

With respect to claim 49, Donahue discloses, searching for at least one remote database accessible via a network of computer systems, see (col. 6, lines 11-34, col. 10, lines 16-58, 220, 330, search request for URL list, fig. 3, searching through internet (network) for any resource location or web site (remote database, URL), col. 6, lines 11-65, col. 9, lines 45-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58); storing location information for each remote database found during the searching, see (fig. 3, col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58); storing an indication of whether each remote database found during the searching is comprised of the desired type of data, wherein the desired type of data is time series data (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65), see (col. 10, lines 39-58, URL list is downloaded, 230, downloads file, fig. 3).

With respect to claim 50, Donahue discloses, database key, (col. 10, lines 39-58, URL list), wherein the database key uniquely identifies the at least one remote database; and, see (URL, fig. 3, col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58); location information for the at least one remote database (URL, fig. 3, col. 9, lines 42-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58); the location information being stored if the at least one remote database is comprised of the desired type of data, wherein the desired type of data is time series data (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65), and the location information being stored in association with the database key (URL), see (col. 10, lines 39-58, URL list is downloaded, 230, downloads file, fig. 3).

With respect to claim 51, Donahue discloses, the at least one remote database, the data type information being stored in association with the database key, see (col. 10, lines 39-58, URL list is downloaded, 230, downloads file, fig. 3).

With respect to claim 52, Donahue discloses, at least one remote database is comprised of the desired type of data, see (col. 10, lines 39-58).

With respect to claim 54, Donahue discloses, database descriptive information being stored in association with the database key, see (col. 10, lines 39-58, URL list is downloaded, 230, downloads file, fig. 3).

With respect to claim 55, Donahue discloses, remote database is comprised of data that has been used in the predetermined data analysis, the database usage information being stored in association with the database key, see (col. 10, lines 39-58, URL list is downloaded, 230, downloads file, fig. 3).

With respect to claim 56, Donahue discloses, remote database was last updated, the database update information being stored in association with the database key, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 57, Donahue discloses, a data series key for the time series of data, wherein the data series key uniquely identifies the time series of data;

Art Unit: 2166

and location information for the time series of data, the location information being stored in association with the data series key, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 58, Donahue discloses, data series descriptive information about the at least one data series, the data series descriptive information being stored in association with the data series key, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 60, Donahue discloses, number of data points being stored in association with the data series key, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 61, Donahue discloses, starting time of the time series of data; ending time of the time series of data; and time interval between each of the data points contained in the time series of data, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65).

With respect to claim 62, Donahue discloses, data series usage information, wherein the data series usage information indicates that the time series of data is comprised of data that has been used in the predetermined data analysis, the data series usage information being stored in association with the data series key, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65, col. 10, lines 39-58).

With respect to claim 63, Donahue discloses, time series of data is comprised of data that has been used in the predetermined data analysis, the data series usage

Art Unit: 2166

information being stored in association with the data series key, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65, col. 10, lines 39-58).

With respect to claim 64, Donahue discloses, information about the format of the time series of data contained in the at least one remote database, and the data series format information being stored in association with the data series key, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65, col. 10, lines 39-58).

With respect to claim 65, Donahue discloses, information about whether payment is required to access the data contained in the at least one remote database, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65, col. 10, lines 39-58).

With respect to claim 66, Donahue discloses, database access authorization information is comprised of information necessary to access the data contained in the at least one remote database, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65, col. 10, lines 39-58).

With respect to claim 67, Donahue discloses, information is comprised of user identification information and a password, see (fig. 2, col. 9, lines 33-65, col. 10, lines 39-58).

With respect to claim 68, Donahue discloses, search for at least one remote database accessible via a network of computer systems, see (col. 6, lines 11-34, col.



Art Unit: 2166

10, lines 16-58, 220, 330, search request for URL list, fig. 3, searching through internet (network) for any resource location or web site (remote database, URL), col. 6, lines 11-65, col. 9, lines 45-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58); determine whether each remote database (210, URL list, fig. 3) found during the searching is comprised of the desired type of data, wherein the desired type of data is time series data (60, fig. 2, fig. 3, col. 10, lines 16-58, time series table is searched and determined to download); and store location information for each remote database found during the searching if the remote database is comprised of the desired type of data, see (col. 10, lines 39-58, URL list is downloaded, 230, downloads file, fig. 3).

With respect to claim 69, Donahue discloses, at least one remote database being accessible by the computer via a network of computer systems, see (col. 6, lines 11-34, col. 10, lines 16-58, 220, 330, search request for URL list, fig. 3, searching through internet (network) for any resource location or web site (remote database, URL), col. 6, lines 11-65, col. 9, lines 45-67 to col. 10, lines 1-58); location information for each remote database (210, URL list, fig. 3) found during the searching is comprised of the desired type of data, wherein the desired type of data is time series data (60, fig. 2, fig. 3, col. 10, lines 16-58, time series table is searched and determined to download); and store location information for each remote database found during the searching if the remote database is comprised of the desired type of data, see (col. 10, lines 39-58, URL list is downloaded, 230, downloads file, fig. 3).

***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Isaac M. Woo whose telephone number is (571) 272-4043. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

IMW  
October 27, 2005